



Innovation for Sustainable  
Sheep and Goat  
Production in Europe

# Welcome to the ISAGE project: UK regional meeting

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# The Consortium

- iSAGE deals with the **less developed** livestock sector in the EU
- iSAGE has all the major players in small ruminant sector

Approximately **16,000** sheep and goat farmers (**5.5** million sheep and goats)



# iSAGE philosophy:



Farms



Farmer



Animal



Processors

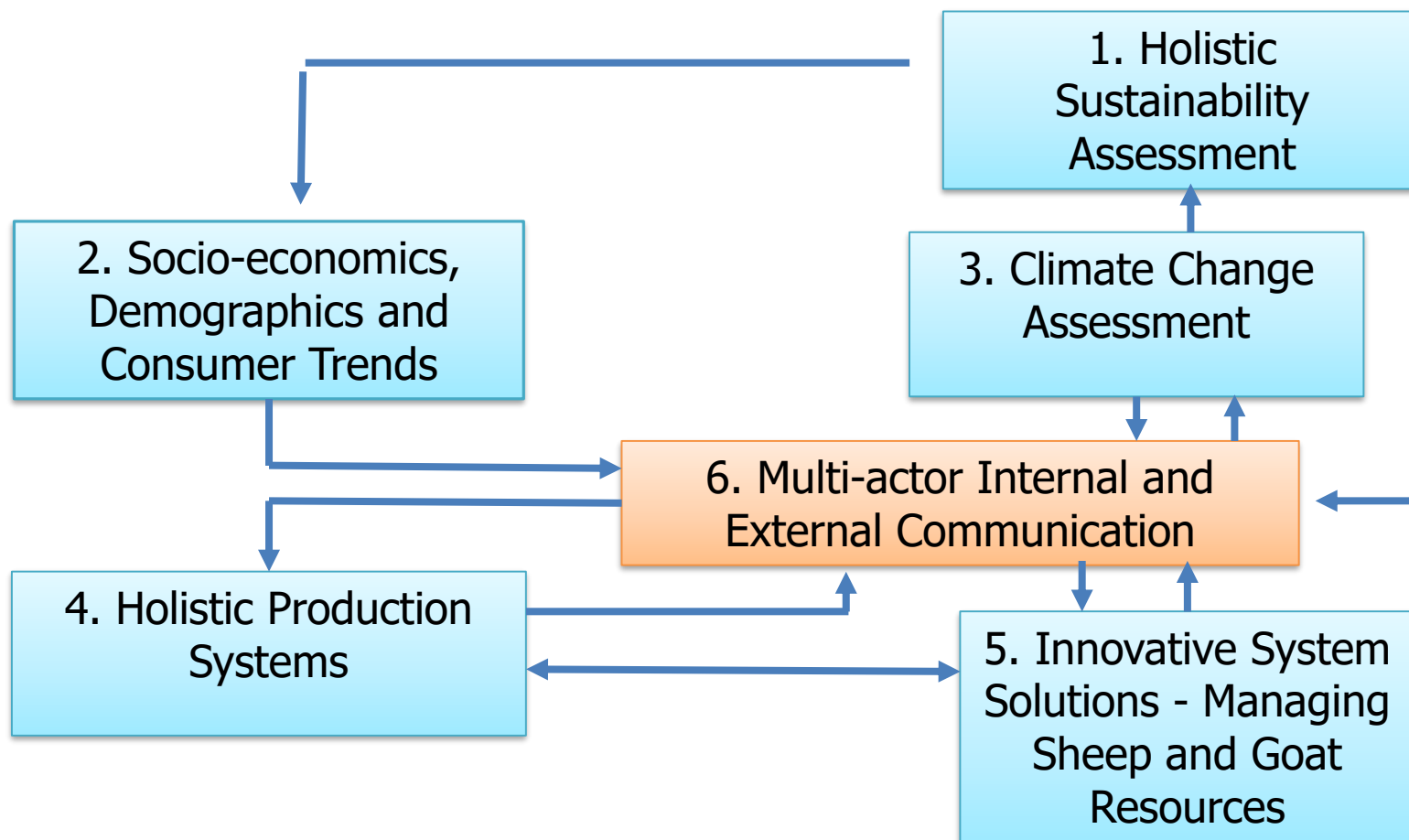


Consumers



Policy makers

# iSAGE working platform



# iSAGE aims

- **Increase/improve** efficiency, profitability, overall sustainability and innovative capacity of the sector
- **Find** new efficiency traits of animals/more adapted to environmental changes
- **Increase/improve** animal welfare, social well-being and rural development
- **Increase/enhance** consumer acceptance, societal acceptance
- **Identify/implement** innovations and **develop policy recommendations**



# What iSAGE did?

## Qualitative techniques

- Case studies
- Semi structured and structured interviews
- Focus groups
- Laddering surveys

## Quantitative techniques

- Farm level surveys
- **Recording impacts** of new innovations on farms
- **Modelling** expected climate impacts
- **Modelling** how management can improve ecology and productivity of farms
- **Assessing the genetic potential** of sheep and goat populations for **future breeding programmes**
- **New decision support tools**



# iSAGE main outputs

- **10 farm typologies** were identified
- **225 farmer surveys** were performed
- **202 farmers'** responses were analyzed
- **453 questionnaires** for meat and dairy products consumers and non-consumers were analyzed.
- Interviews for **retailer surveys**
- **Three case studies** per country on selected supply chains
- **New modelling methods** to promote sustainability and resilience to climate change -**Pasture productivity** statistical model
- Implementation of **innovation case studies** in different countries
- Development of a **toolbox**
- Development and testing of a new **iSAGE farm model**
- Development and testing of **iSAGE-DSS**



# iSAGE outputs are used to:

- **Understand barriers** to innovation and sustainability
- **Define future opportunities** for a competitive sheep and goat sector
- **Develop farm management tools** and innovative breeding strategies
- **Develop solutions** for social, welfare and consumer issues
- Work with industry to **inform, help** and **innovate**





# Aim of iSAGE regional workshop

- **Structured discussions**
  - Trends in the Sheep and Goat sector
  - Strategies regarding consumers perception and acceptance of sheep and goat products
  - Biodiversity and landscape
  - On farm decision support tools



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Thank you

